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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Germany, Politics, TV Channels

CPYRGHT

East-West German

CPYRGHT News Explained

of the Tribune. In the letter of Mrs. Schulz-Peters you March 10, 1962 issue re some comment from my view in order to give a less dis view of what I said at the Meadville World Affairs Forum. Mrs. Schulz-Peters called the newspaper article on my speech immediately told her there were errors and mis in the article. However, I was so busy threatening to leave the German Foreign Of my activities here, she gave me a chance to ex what was correct in that and what was not. Con her entire letter is based on misquotation. I did not state that "East Ger had willingly given up their individual rights." I would not make such a statement, especially since my wife escaped from a Communist country her and I can very well in the feelings of people and have to live behind the Iron curtain. What I tried to point out was the change that has tak place in the attitude of the East Germans during the last few years. They have recognized that they cannot expect any help from the West — and the Hungarian Revolution confirmed that belief and that neither the West German government nor the Western powers have a genuine interest in German reunification. Thus they know they have to accept the present state of af as a reality unless they are lucky enough to escape into the free world, and after the build ing of the Berlin Wall this has almost become impossible. Had Mrs. Schulz-Peters been present at my speech and not based her answer on a newspaper report which she knew was erroneous this misunderstanding would not have occurred.

In order to prevent further attacks attacking what I have not said I would like to correct other errors in the article, too. The West German Constitution dates back to 1949, not 1954. The Communist students with whom I had discussions in West Berlin were not exchange students but students of the East Berlin Humboldt University, sent over on agitation assignments by the Communist party.

As to CIA reports I must confess that I have no access to them and therefore am not too familiar with their contents. So I cannot answer Mrs. Schulz-Peters accordingly. But as to my doubted "knowledge of the true feeling of German people," I consider myself in a much better position to judge than some one who left Germany five years ago. I left West Germany in August, 1961. My last visit to East Berlin was in the fall of 1960 at which time I did research work at the Communist university there.

I am a German — though eventually I hope to be able to win the citizenship of this country, the home I have chosen — and it is only with deep concern that I state the existence of two different Germanys. But there is no use in kidding ourselves. The two parts of Germany have taken very different developments and even the last bond between them — the German language — is already affected by that, as I pointed out by means of examples in my speech. These are the facts and wishful thinking will not help here.

Finally, I would like to state that I appreciate Mrs. Schulz-Peter's warning to our Allegheny students to be careful of my personal opinions. However, my students know quite well how I encourage critical thinking. Moreover, many of them already have heard different opinions on the German question expressed at a panel discussion at the col

lege where they could compare my view with that of others.

DIETER P. LOTZE
704½ Chestnut St.,
Meadville, Pa.

In Meadville, coming to rest along the ber
it has been with her of the road
Mrs. Judy A. Stokes of Mai
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the time of the accident.